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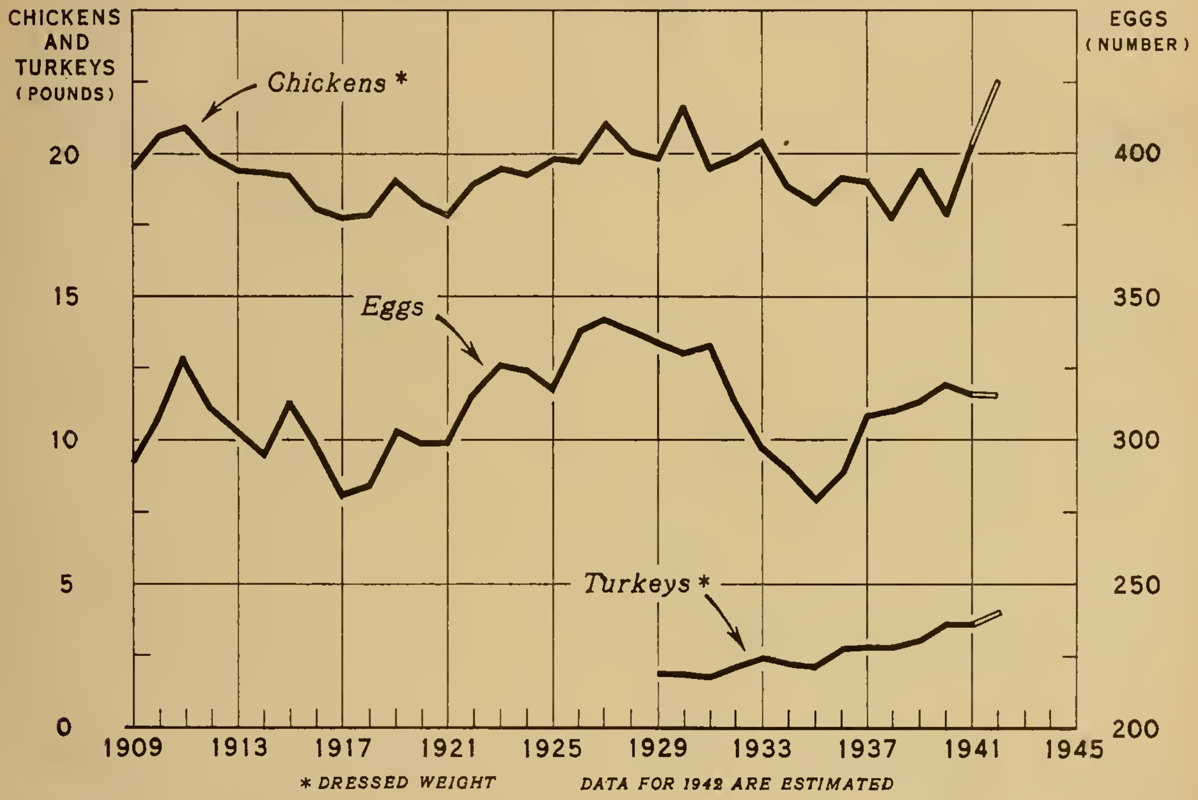
THE Poultry and Egg SITUATION

BUREAU OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BAE
PES-64 APRIL 1942

PER CAPITA CONSUMPTION OF CHICKENS, TURKEYS, AND EGGS, UNITED STATES, 1909-42



* DRESSED WEIGHT DATA FOR 1942 ARE ESTIMATED

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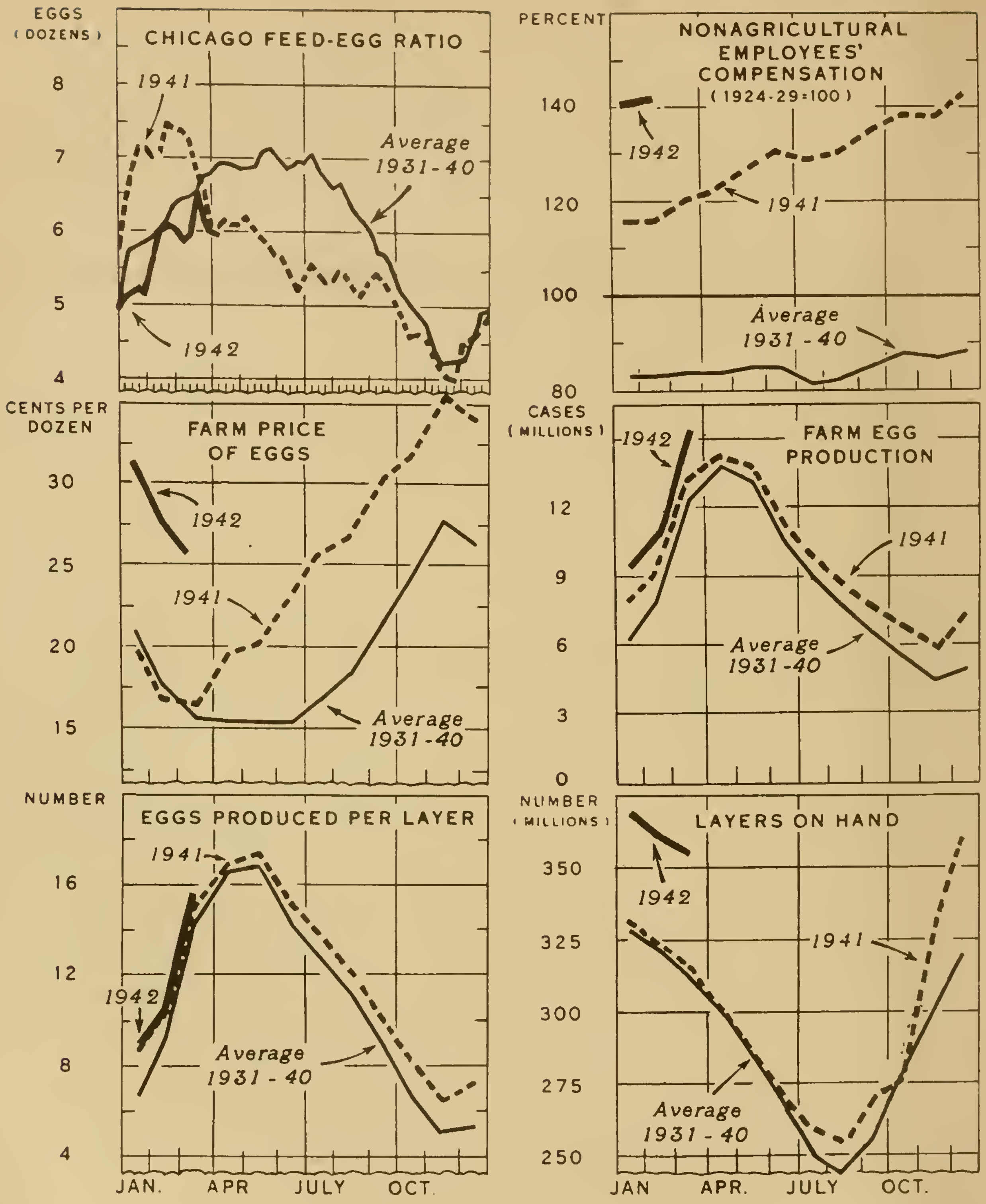
Although large quantities of eggs will be exported this year under the lend-lease program, domestic consumption per capita will be about as large as the average for recent years and substantially larger than in the drought years of the middle 1930's. Per capita supplies of chicken and turkey will be the largest on record in 1942 since it is likely that from 6 to 10 percent more chickens and turkeys will be raised on farms this year than last.

THE EGG SITUATION



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FIGURE I

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THE POULTRY AND EGG SITUATION

Summary

Egg production in April reached the seasonal peak for the year and will decline seasonally from May to November. The rate of output through the summer, however, is likely to continue much larger than a year earlier. Egg production in the first quarter of 1942 was 16 percent larger than in the first quarter of 1941. The number of layers on farms in March was 12.5 percent larger than in March last year and the rate of lay on April 1 was 5 percent higher than a year earlier. The prospective favorable relationship between feed prices and egg prices will encourage delayed marketing of old hens and better feeding of layers during the spring and summer months.

The Department of Agriculture is now making contracts for delivery of dried eggs in designated months up to December 31. This action is encouraging private firms to store considerable quantities of both shell and frozen eggs for drying later in the year. During March, the total into-storage movement of shell and frozen eggs was more than 70 percent (900,000 cases) larger than in March 1941. The demand for eggs will be further strengthened in 1942 by increased consumer buying power and large purchases for lend-lease, and egg prices are expected to continue favorable for egg production throughout the year. Wholesale prices of eggs at Chicago recently advanced somewhat and now are about 33 percent higher than a year ago.

Farmers apparently are going ahead with plans to increase chicken and turkey production. The hatchery output of baby chicks in March was 25 percent larger than a year earlier, and the number of eggs set was 18 percent larger. The number of turkey poults hatched in March also was greater than a year earlier. Comparable increases over last year probably will not

be so marked in coming months, but it is likely that farmers will raise from 6 to 10 percent more chickens and turkeys this year. Total and per capita consumption of these products, therefore, will be the largest on record. Despite the large supply, prices received by farmers for chickens and turkeys may average higher in 1942 than last year because of the prospective stronger demand for all meats.

-- April 23, 1942

REVIEW OF RECENT DEVELOPMENTS

Number of Layers 12.5 Percent Larger Than a Year Ago

Unusually large numbers of pullets were added to laying flocks after January 1 this year and as a result the number of layers on farms declined less than seasonally and much less than a year earlier. In March the number of layers on farms of the United States was about 12.5 percent larger than in March 1941. By regions the increases in numbers of layers were as follows: North Atlantic, 7 percent; East North Central, 10 percent; West North Central, 16 percent; South Atlantic, 13 percent; South Central, 16 percent; West, 6 percent. The rate of lay per bird averaged 4 percent higher than in March last year, so that egg production was about 16 percent larger than in March 1941. Production of eggs in the entire first quarter of 1942 was 16 percent larger than a year earlier.

Into-Storage Movement of Eggs Much Larger Than Last Year

Large quantities of shell and frozen eggs are being stored for use in drying by private firms next fall and winter. In March the total into-storage movement of shell eggs was 527,000 cases larger than in March last year and the into-storage movement of frozen eggs was equivalent to an increase of 400,000 cases. The total into-storage movement of shell and frozen eggs in March was 74 percent larger than in March 1941. Stocks of shell eggs on April 1 were the largest since 1930 and holdings of frozen eggs were the largest on record.

Egg Prices Strengthened During the Past Month

Egg prices are continuing favorable for egg production, since unusually strong storage demand is supplementing strong demand from consumers and from firms for drying. Wholesale prices of eggs at Chicago in mid-April were 1 to 2 cents higher than in mid-March. The price of fresh firsts at Chicago was about 30 percent, or 7 cents, higher than in mid-April 1941.

Prices of higher grade eggs are low relative to prices of other grades, but average prices received by farmers for all eggs are continuing much higher than a year earlier. The average price received by farmers for eggs in mid-March was 25.8 cents per dozen. This was about 9 cents, or 57 percent, higher than a year earlier. The mid-March parity price was 26.1 cents per dozen.

Farm Marketings of Fowl Smaller Than a Year Earlier

Average weekly receipts of fowl at midwest primary markets in March were about one-fifth smaller than in March 1941, and continued smaller into April. The percentage declines from a year earlier are less pronounced for total poultry than for fowl. Data on "total poultry" for the midwest markets include young stock and cocks as well as fowls. Receipts of dressed poultry, fresh and frozen, at the four principal markets have been smaller in recent weeks than a year earlier, but the total receipts since January 1 have been a little larger than in the corresponding months of 1941.

Net Storage Withdrawals of All Poultry in March Largest on Record

The net out-of-storage movement of several classes of poultry in March was the largest for several years, and the net withdrawal of all poultry for the month was the largest on record, exceeding by about 2 million pounds the previous record out-movement of March 1937. Total stocks on April 1, however, were about 10 percent larger than a year earlier and were the largest on record for that date. Increases in April 1 holdings over a year earlier, by classes, were as follows: Broilers, 52 percent; fryers, 19 percent; roasters, 6 percent; and fowls, 11 percent. Stocks of turkeys were about 3 percent smaller than last year and holdings of ducks were about the same as on March 1, 1941.

Wholesale Prices of Chickens and Fowl Steady During the Past Month

Wholesale prices for live fowl at Chicago were steady during the month ending in mid-April, continuing somewhat higher than a year earlier. Prices of heavy young chickens advanced to new highs for the year in early April, but prices of lighter weight young chickens were fairly steady. Prices of young chickens in the East, in general, have been low relative to prices at Chicago, and, as a result, some live and ice packed chickens have been shipped to Chicago and other midwestern cities from specialized producing areas of the East.

The average price received by farmers for chickens in mid-March--18.0 cents per pound--was 25 percent higher than a year earlier and 7 percent above the mid-March parity price.

OUTLOOK - EGGS

BACKGROUND.- In recently revised estimates of egg production the level of output for recent years was raised somewhat. The estimate of 1941 farm production was revised from 3,393 million dozens to 3,480 million dozens. Inasmuch as the whole level has been raised, the 1942 production goal, which calls for a 13-percent increase over the 1941 output, likewise is raised. The goal restated on a basis comparable to the revised estimates is 3,932 million dozens compared with 3,822 million dozens, the original goal for farm-produced eggs. The goal for total egg production (including nonfarm output) in 1942 is now 4,325 million dozens. National and State goals, in terms of percentage changes from 1941, have not been altered. Because of the revisions in estimates for individual States, of course, the 1942 State goals, in terms of actual increases in dozens over the 1941 output, are changed somewhat.

Pertinent aspects of the outlook for eggs as discussed in recent issues of this report are summarized below:

1. Because of the favorable feed-egg ratio in prospect, it is likely that the number of layers will continue larger than a year earlier and that the total egg output for the year will be at least 13 percent larger than in 1941. This is the increase called for in the 1942 production goal.

2. Large purchases of eggs by the Department, primarily in dried form, will supplement the stronger consumer demand, and as a result egg prices probably will continue favorable for egg production. The equivalent of several million cases of shell and frozen eggs are being stored for drying next fall and winter. This has resulted in a strong storage demand. On August 1, the usual time of peak holdings, storage stocks of eggs may be nearly twice those of August 1, 1941.

3. As a result of a 6 to 10 percent increase in the number of chickens likely to be raised on farms this year compared with 1941, the number of layers on farms at the beginning of 1943 probably will be about 5 percent larger than in early 1942.

OUTLOOK - CHICKENS

BACKGROUND.- Production of chickens in the United States increased considerably in 1941. 1/ Total supplies last year were the largest on record and a further increase is taking place this year. As a result of these large supplies, prices received by farmers for chickens

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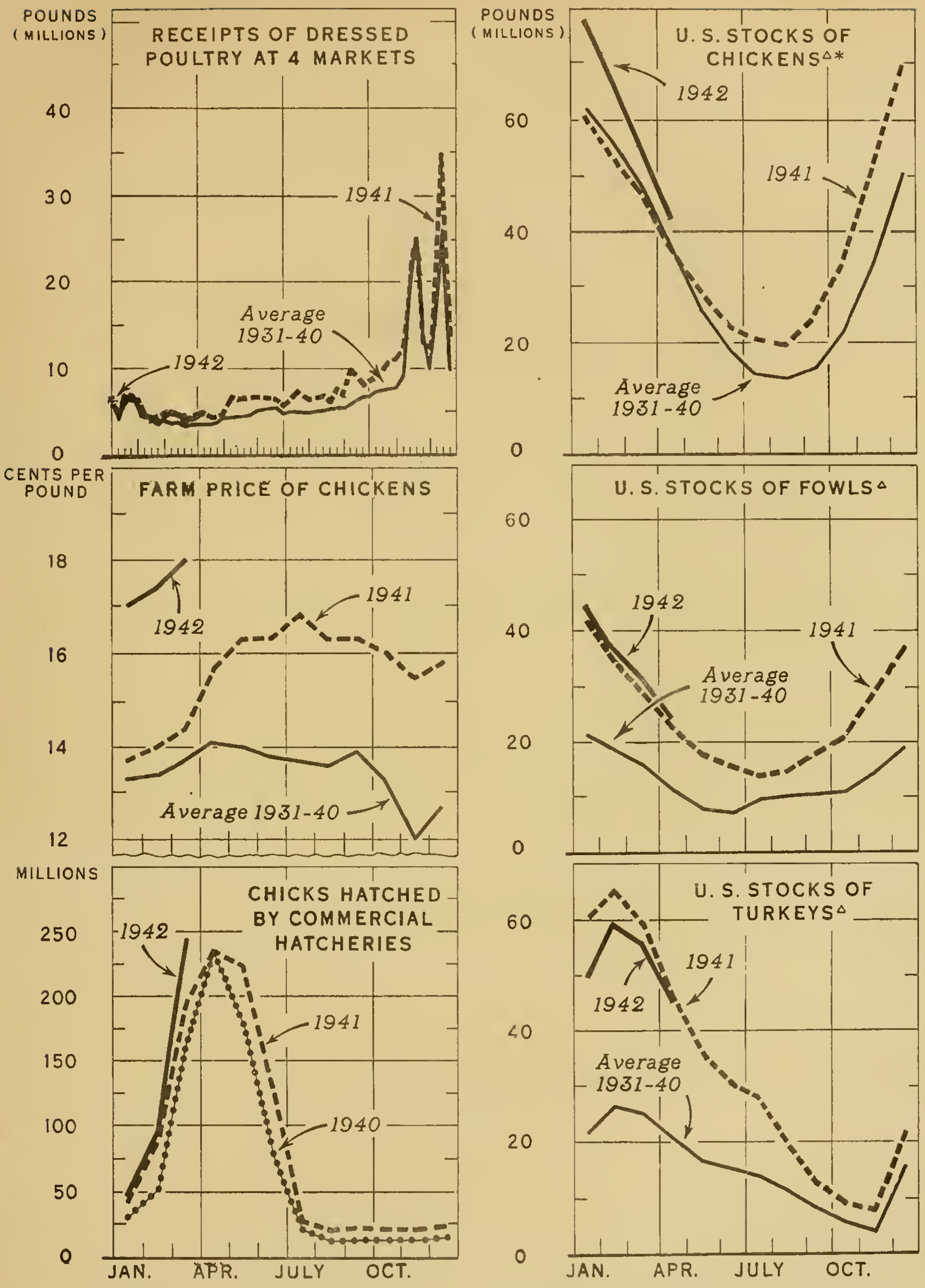
1/ On the basis of information from the 1939 Census of Agriculture and other information, estimates of chicken and egg production on farms of the United States have been revised from 1934 to date. In the revised estimates, data on farm production of chickens and on commercial broiler production are presented separately. Copies of reports containing these estimates may be obtained upon request to the Division of Economic Information, Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

THE POULTRY SITUATION



△ 1ST OF THE MONTH   * INCLUDES BROILERS, FRYERS, AND ROASTERS

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FIGURE 2

have not increased as much as prices for some other products. Increases in cash farm income from chickens, however, compare favorably with increases in income from other sources. Cash income from farm chickens in 1941 was 247 million dollars and income from broilers was 89 million dollars, making a total of 336 million dollars. This was about one-third larger than the 253 million dollars in 1940 and was the largest since the record of 374 million dollars established in 1929.

March Hatchery Output Largest on Record for Any Month

In March about 242 million salable chicks were produced by commercial hatcheries in the United States. This was 25 percent larger than the output in March 1941 and about 1 percent larger than the previous record monthly output established in April 1939. The number of eggs set in the first half of April was 18 percent larger than a year earlier indicating a new monthly record output is likely in April. The largest increase in hatchery output occurred in the West North Central States. Production in this area was 50 percent larger than in March 1941, and accounting for 28 million of the 48 million increase in total number of chicks hatched as compared to the corresponding month last year.

A less favorable relationship between feed prices and chicken prices in the East has resulted in some weakening in the demand for chicks for broiler production. Some hatcheries in eastern broiler areas reported 40 percent fewer chicks hatched in March this year than last. In the South Atlantic States as a whole, however, (including the Delaware-Maryland-Virginia broiler area) the hatchery output was 21 percent larger than in March 1941. Favorable prices for live chickens at Chicago in recent weeks have encouraged continued heavy production in the mid-western broiler areas. Although market supplies of commercial broilers will decline seasonally during the next several months, the total output this year is expected to be fully as large as the 175 million produced last year, if not larger.

Number of Chickens Raised on Farms This Year Will Closely Approach or Exceed Previous Records in all Regions

Requirements for flock replacement purposes have been largely responsible for the strong demand for chicks in recent months. The favorable relationship between feed prices and egg prices has resulted in a particularly strong demand for chicks in the Midwest.

Comparative increases over a year earlier in the output of baby chicks may be reduced considerably in the next few weeks from that for the first quarter of 1942. In 1941 the demand for chicks was stepped up considerably after April 1 as a result of the advance in egg prices and the assurance given by the Department of Agriculture that egg prices would be supported. In the late spring and early summer the demand for chicks may not be as strong as in the corresponding period last year. In 1941 the output of chicks in May and June was more than 100 million larger than in the corresponding months of 1940, and the average hatching date even in that year was later than usual.

Total hatchings in the first quarter of this year were 19 percent larger than in the corresponding 3 months of 1941.

Number of chickens raised on farms by regions, selected years

Region	Number of birds raised: 1930	Number of birds raised: 1940	Number of birds raised: 1941	Previous record high: Number raised	Previous record high: Year established	Percentage previous record is over 1941 number
	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands	Thousands		Percent
North Atlantic	81,522	72,593	79,823	87,235	1936	9.3
East North Central	156,322	124,714	139,745	160,288	1933	14.7
West North Central	230,339	174,960	207,766	230,339	1930	10.9
South Atlantic	81,288	71,483	81,609	89,397	1932	9.5
South Central	152,571	124,420	151,064	160,828	1927	6.5
Western	74,929	48,835	56,823	74,929	1930	31.9
United States	776,971	617,005	716,830	[1] 803,016		12.0

[1] Record for the United States was established in 1930 when 777 million birds were raised. This was 8.2 percent larger than the number raised in 1941.

The phenomenal increase in commercial broiler production in recent years has supplemented the supply of chicken meat originating on general farms. The total supply of chicken meat in 1941 was the largest on record, and a further increase is likely this year. Per capita consumption of chicken in the United States in 1942 will be the largest on record. Because of the stronger consumer purchasing power and the strong demand for all meats, however, it is likely that prices received by farmers for chickens will average higher this year than last. With large supplies of some cuts of pork earmarked for lend-lease purchases, a considerable shift to other meats probably will occur. The index number of wholesale prices of meats in mid-March was 30 percent higher than a year earlier.

TURKEYS

Number of Turkey Poults Hatched Larger Than Last Year

The strong demand for turkey poults indicates that farmers are going ahead with their plans for expanding turkey production. In early February farmers indicated they intended to start 8 percent more poults this year than last. In the month of March, 87 hatcheries in the United States produced 38 percent more poults and set 16 percent more turkey eggs. Advance orders also were larger than on April 1, 1941. Although the increase over a year earlier may be smaller from now on than it has been so far, it is likely that from 6 to 10 percent more turkeys will be raised this year than were raised in 1941. This would result in the largest domestic supply of turkey on record.

Despite this increase in supplies, it is likely that prices received by farmers for turkeys this year will average higher in 1942. The increased domestic consumer demand for all meats will be a strong factor tending to bring about higher turkey prices.

FEED SUPPLIES AND PRICES

The disappearance of corn during the first quarter of 1942 was the largest on record, 28 percent greater than in the corresponding quarter of 1941. Stocks of corn on April 1 were 3 percent smaller than the record stocks on April 1 last year. If corn is utilized at this rapid rate, as now appears likely, stocks of corn remaining next October 1 probably would be between 500 and 550 million bushels or 15 to 20 percent below the 1941 carry-over.

Changes in prospects for 1942 crops will be a major factor influencing feed prices during the next few months. The loan rate on corn in 1942-43 may have less influence on prices than it has during any of the past 4 years. The price ceiling on tankage was lowered $6.00 per ton and meat scraps $5.00 per ton effective March 26. The cost of a poultry ration based on Chicago prices was steady during the month ending in mid-April, and the feed-egg ratio continued more favorable than a year earlier and more favorable than average.

DOMESTIC DEMAND

During the past few months, conditions directly affecting the consumer demand for farm products have changed little, but it is expected that further improvement will be noticeable shortly. This prospect is based on anticipated increases in industrial production and employment and the growing importance of Government purchases of farm products. Moreover, the increasing scarcity of consumers' durable goods will tend to divert purchasing power to those items in more adequate supply, including farm products.

Widening controls over prices and uses of scarce items are moderating the advance in both wholesale and retail prices. But continued expansion in consumer income, declining production of consumer goods for civilian use, and growing military and lend-lease needs combine to exert a strong upward pressure on prices. Consequently, the moderate upward trend in the general price level probably will continue.

CONSUMPTION OF POULTRY PRODUCTS IN THE UNITED STATES, 1909-41

Estimates of total and per capita consumption of poultry and eggs for the period 1909-41 are presented in the accompanying tables. These estimates for calendar years are constructed from available data on production, imports, exports, nonfood uses, and stocks at the beginning and the end of each year.

Total production of eggs consists of the estimated farm output plus 10 percent of such production to allow for the nonfarm egg production. Data on storage stocks at the beginning and end of each year include only United States holdings of shell and frozen eggs. Data on year-end holdings of dried eggs in past years are not available. Figures on imports consist of shell eggs and the approximate shell egg equivalent of dried and frozen egg products. Export data include shell eggs only. Heretofore, exports of egg products have not been reported separately, i.e., dried eggs and frozen eggs have been reported in a composite figure. The quantities of egg products exported, were small through 1940, so no large error is introduced as a result of this omission. The Department of Commerce has begun to report these products separately, so when the data are again published it will be possible to determine the shell egg equivalent of all eggs exported from the United States. The quantities of eggs used for hatching were estimated from the number of chickens raised annually in the United States and the average number of eggs required per bird raised. The total number of eggs used for hatching, therefore, includes eggs used by commercial hatcheries and the quantities used by farm and nonfarm poultry raisers who did not purchase their chicks.

The estimated total output of chicken in the United States is based on the estimated quantity produced and consumed on farms and the quantity sold from farms, with a 10 percent addition to these two items to allow for nonfarm production. Total output in recent years also includes the estimated production of commercial broilers. The total quantity was converted to dressed weight by assuming that blood and feather loss averages 12 percent. Data on storage holdings include total stocks of poultry less ducks and turkeys, when such classes were reported separately. Data on exports and imports of chicken consist of the dressed weight of live and "dead" chickens.

The annual output of turkeys includes the quantity sold from farms and the quantity consumed on farms. Dressed weight is determined by assuming that the blood and feather loss amounts to about 9 percent of the live weight. Exports of turkeys have been negligible, and the data of such shipments have not been reported separately.

In estimating the consumption of poultry products no attempt was made to estimate variations in waste. Since there probably is less waste by consumers in a period of depression than in a period of general prosperity, the variations between periods in total and per capita consumption of poultry products may not be as great as indicated by the estimates. Another source of error lies in the method of allowing for the quantities produced by people other than farmers. In spite of these and other possibilities of error, however, the estimates probably are accurate enough to indicate significant variations in the consumption of poultry products.

United States foreign trade in poultry products has been relatively unimportant and the quantity of poultry and eggs utilized annually in this country has been about equivalent to the quantity produced. Production of poultry products responds more readily to changes in demand and other factors than most other livestock enterprises. Changes in demand therefore are largely responsible for the fluctuations in the level of per capita consumption. This is particularly true for eggs. In some instances, of course, the influence of other factors predominates. During World War I, for example, a strong demand for all foods prevailed, but as a result of the unfavorable relationship between feed prices and egg prices and the limited supplies of feed available, the total output of chickens and eggs did not expand.

The largest annual per capita consumption of eggs occurred in the late 1920's. As a result of the decline in demand in the early 1930's and the shortage of feeds in the middle of that decade, per capita consumption of eggs then declined to the lowest level since World War I. In recent years, supplies of feed have been more abundant, demand has strengthened, and egg production has increased considerably. Very heavy lend-lease requirements can be met this year without reducing per capita consumption in this country below the average for the last few years. Stronger domestic demand will be reflected this year in higher prices rather than in further increases in per capita consumption.

Per capita consumption of chicken has fluctuated less during the last 3 decades than the per capita consumption of eggs. The largest average quantity consumed per person was in 1930, when supplies of chicken came largely from flocks raised primarily for producing eggs. In recent years, especially since 1935, production of commercial broilers has increased considerably. With the additional output on general farms, domestic supplies of chicken in 1942 (total and per capita) will be the largest on record. The importance of chicken in the meat portion of the average American's menu is indicated in the following comparison of quantities consumed per capita.

Per capita consumption of meats, United States, specified periods
(dressed weight)

Item	1910-14	1920-24	1930-34	1941
	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds	Pounds
Beef	66.1	58.7	50.3	63.1
Veal	6.7	8.0	7.0	7.6
Lamb and mutton	7.2	5.4	6.8	7.0
Pork (excluding lard)	66.3	68.7	68.0	70.4
Total (above)	146.3	140.9	132.1	148.1
Chicken	20.0	18.7	20.0	20.3
Turkey	---	---	2.0	3.6
Total	166.3	159.6	154.1	172.0

Turkey production in the United States has increased considerably since 1929 as a result of the general adoption of highly specialized production methods. Per capita consumption has been increasing for several years and will establish a new record high this year.

Table 1.- Eggs: Consumption in the United States, total and per capita, 1909-41

Year	Total egg production 1/	Cold storage stocks at beginning of year	Imports 2/	Exports 3/	Eggs used for hatching 4/	Cold storage stocks at end of year	Consumption	
							Total	Per capita
	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Millions	Eggs
1909	27,830	---	---	59	1,275	---	26,496	292
1910	29,700	---	89	68	1,392	---	28,329	307
1911	32,340	---	62	159	1,343	---	30,900	329
1912	31,130	---	46	228	1,311	---	29,637	311
1913	30,910	---	135	212	1,350	---	29,483	303
1914	30,690	---	223	252	1,398	---	29,268	295
1915	32,890	---	202	268	1,368	---	31,456	313
1916	31,680	543	318	339	1,337	359	30,506	299
1917	30,470	359	483	239	1,360	618	29,095	281
1918	30,800	618	345	251	1,446	359	29,707	284
1919	33,550	359	586	465	1,427	753	31,850	303
1920	32,670	753	601	322	1,392	424	31,886	299
1921	33,880	424	629	399	1,498	516	32,520	299
1922	36,300	516	646	415	1,571	703	34,773	315
1923	38,500	703	372	368	1,634	1,019	36,554	326
1924	38,051	1,019	494	337	1,632	594	37,001	324
1925	38,466	594	692	300	1,665	945	36,842	318
1926	40,973	945	635	320	1,754	730	39,749	338
1927	42,490	730	435	344	1,808	788	40,715	342
1928	42,525	788	424	242	1,671	1,071	40,753	338
1929	41,713	1,071	640	145	1,768	790	40,721	334
1930	42,974	790	534	223	1,786	1,502	40,787	331
1931	42,385	1,502	403	92	1,615	1,312	41,271	333
1932	39,928	1,312	120	28	1,634	603	39,095	313
1933	39,065	603	110	22	1,642	861	37,253	297
1934	37,872	861	90	23	1,467	864	36,469	289
1935	36,970	864	270	22	1,487	1,024	35,571	280
1936	37,987	1,024	320	25	1,606	732	36,968	289
1937	41,320	732	380	29	1,377	1,347	39,679	308
1938	41,092	1,347	77	25	1,485	712	40,294	310
1939	42,727	712	59	32	1,603	885	40,978	313
1940	43,544	885	85	55	1,497	925	42,037	319
1941 5/	45,943	925	---	---	1,776	3/	42,052	316

1/ Includes nonfarm production estimated at 10 percent of farm production.

2/ Shell egg equivalent of eggs and egg products.

3/ Shell eggs.

4/ Estimated from the total number of chickens raised in the United States and the average number of eggs required per bird raised.

5/ Complete data not published for 1941.

Table 2.- Chickens, dressed weight: Consumption in the United States, total and per capita, 1909-41 1/

Year	Production			Cold storage stocks at beginning of year 3/	Imports	Exports	Cold storage stocks at end of year 3/	Consumption	
	Farm 2/	Commercial broilers	Total					Total	Per capita
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Pounds
1909	1,774		1,774					1,774	19.5
1910	1,904		1,904		4/ 1			1,905	20.6
1911	1,955		1,955		1			1,956	20.9
1912	1,896		1,896		1			1,897	19.9
1913	1,885		1,885		1			1,886	19.4
1914	1,907		1,907		4			1,911	19.3
1915	1,928		1,928		3			1,931	19.2
1916	1,878		1,878		2		29	1,851	18.1
1917	1,857		1,857	29	2		60	1,828	17.7
1918	1,896		1,896	60	1		100	1,857	17.8
1919	1,976		1,976	100	2		82	1,996	19.0
1920	1,932		1,932	82	4		73	1,945	18.2
1921	1,952		1,952	73	6		96	1,935	17.8
1922	2,076		2,076	96	4	6	91	2,079	18.9
1923	2,172		2,172	91	3	6	83	2,177	19.4
1924	2,226		2,226	83	4	5	118	2,190	19.2
1925	2,280		2,280	118	5	6	105	2,292	19.8
1926	2,341		2,341	105	8	4	134	2,316	19.7
1927	2,474		2,474	134	6	5	108	2,501	21.0
1928	2,417		2,417	108	7	4	99	2,429	20.1
1929	2,442		2,442	99	7	3	131	2,414	19.8
1930	2,626		2,626	131	2	3	100	2,656	21.6
1931	2,426		2,426	100	1	3	106	2,418	19.5
1932	2,465		2,465	106	1	1	93	2,478	19.8
1933	2,572		2,572	93	5/	2	103	2,560	20.4
1934	2,307	85	2,392	103	1	2	110	2,384	18.8
1935	2,189	108	2,297	110	1	2	87	2,319	18.2
1936	2,373	134	2,507	87	2	1	148	2,447	19.1
1937	2,211	172	2,383	148	5	2	92	2,442	19.0
1938	2,108	211	2,319	92	2	2	110	2,301	17.7
1939	2,288	258	2,546	110	1	3	109	2,545	19.4
1940	2,200	320	2,520	109	2	2	140	2,489	18.9
1941 6/	2,296	426	2,722	140	1	1	161	2,701	20.3

1/ 88 percent of live weight.

2/ Consumption on farms and sales, plus 10 percent of same to allow for nonfarm production.

3/ Total poultry less turkeys and ducks when reported separately.

4/ July to December.

5/ Less than 500,000 pounds

6/ Preliminary. Data on foreign trade for first 9 months only.

Table 3.- Turkeys, dressed weight: Consumption in the United States, total and per capita, 1929-41 1/

Year	Turkey production 2/	Cold storage stocks at: beginning of year	Imports 3/	Cold storage stocks at: end of year	Consumption: Total	Consumption: Per capita
	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Million pounds	Pounds
1929	213	10	---	10	213	1.8
1930	216	10	1	5	222	1.8
1931	214	5	5	10	214	1.7
1932	264	10	1	15	260	2.1
1933	293	15	4/	16	297	2.4
1934	284	16	4/	19	281	2.2
1935	267	19	4/	17	269	2.1
1936	361	17	1	35	344	2.7
1937	346	35	4/	26	355	2.8
1938	355	26	4/	23	358	2.8
1939	422	23	4/	52	393	3.00
1940	482	52	4/	61	474	3.59
1941 5/	474	61	4/	50	485	3.64

1/ 91 percent of live weight.
2/ Sales, plus consumption on farms.
3/ Exports not reported separately.
4/ Less than 500,000 pounds.
5/ Preliminary. Foreign trade data available for first 9 months only.

Table 4. - *Eggs: Production, storage holdings, purchases by the United States Department of Agriculture, and commercial hatchery operations*

Year and month	Number of layers on farm	Average number of eggs laid per hen	Total farm production of eggs	Storage stocks, first of the month				Eggs purchased by the USDA				Commercial hatchery operations	
				Privately owned		Owned by USDA		Shell eggs					
				Shell	Frozen[1]	Shell	Frozen[1]	Direct purchases	Blue stamp purchases[2]	Frozen eggs[3]	Dried eggs[3]	Eggs set	Chicks hatched
	Millions	*Number*	*Million cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 cases*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*Millions eggs*	*Millions chicks*
1941													
Jan. . .	331	8.7	8.0	313	1,955	301	0	4	126	0	0	91.8	41.2
Feb. . .	324	10.3	9.3	272	1,435	25	0	173	140	0	0	192.9	88.0
Mar. . .	315	15.0	13.1	291	1,206	16	0	72	165	0	0	334.4	193.7
Apr. . .	301	16.9	14.2	1,065	1,691	25	0	387	182	0	0	356.0	237.8
May . . .	286	17.4	13.8	2,816	2,654	215	0	399	179	15,527	840	272.1	224.2
June . .	271	15.1	11.4	4,960	3,788	415	0	38	194	6,240	735	126.3	131.1
July . .	259	13.8	9.9	6,100	4,372	327	391	317	169	42,218	4,750	37.6	29.6
Aug. . .	255	12.2	8.7	6,402	5,156	239	47	97	211	2,205	6,525	30.8	19.2
Sept. . .	271	10.0	7.6	5,512	4,661	619	512	88	193	0	5,546	30.2	19.1
Oct. . .	302	8.2	6.9	4,846	3,977	595	781	92	196	0	12,687	32.0	20.5
Nov. . .	333	6.5	6.0	3,271	3,373	586	729	16	118	0	4,247	34.8	22.6
Dec. . .	359	7.3	7.3	1,278	2,756	392	698	72	124	0	9,284	38.9	24.6
1942													
Jan. . .	368	9.2	9.4	298	2,187	251	361	142	119	0	10,550	93.9	46.9
Feb. . .	362	10.6	10.6	138	1,663	193	372	175	130	0	18,121	244.1	95.1
Mar.[3] . .	354	15.5	15.2	401	1,643	128	324	83			26,684	393.4	242.2
Apr.[4] . .				1,743	2,543	96	315						
Percentage of year earlier[5]	112	103	116	164	150	384	--	115	79	--	--	118	125
	Ten-year averages, 1931-40					Comparable data, 1940							
Jan. . .	332	6.8	6.3	819	1,916	0	(6)	26	27	(6)	(6)	57.2	30.1
Feb. . .	325	8.9	8.1	270	1,616	0		41	37			154.4	54.7
Mar. . .	315	14.2	12.4	182	1,386	0		291	51			308.0	165.9
Apr. . .	301	16.5	13.8	1,257	1,540	58		197	66			319.8	236.5
May . . .	285	16.7	13.2	3,886	2,157	25		662	71			194.4	178.6
June . .	267	14.2	10.6	6,516	2,872	318		870	72			70.9	77.8
July . .	253	12.7	8.9	7,719	3,363	933		160	77			28.1	22.3
Aug. . .	246	11.1	7.6	7,855	3,440	1,068		71	90			19.3	12.3
Sept. . .	256	8.9	6.3	7,338	3,250	1,025		0	89			20.1	12.6
Oct. . .	278	6.9	5.3	6,169	2,929	901		0	96			22.1	14.4
Nov. . .	302	5.2	4.3	4,256	2,573	717		0	92			22.5	14.5
Dec. . .	323	5.5	4.9	2,128	2,217	545		0	104			32.3	17.1

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[1] Case equivalent.

[2] Adjusted for wastage in distribution.

[3] Includes purchases for future delivery.

[4] Preliminary.

[5] Applies to last month for which data are available.

[6] No purchases during 1940.

Table 5. - *Poultry: Receipts and storage holdings*

Year and month	Receipts of dressed poultry at 4 principal markets	Receipts of live poultry					Storage stocks first of the month							
		Mid-west, average weekly receipts per plant			Chicago[1]	New York[1]	Broilers	Fryers	Roasters	Fowls	Turkeys	Ducks	Miscellaneous and unclassified	Total
		Total poultry	Fowl	Young stock										
	Million pounds	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*1,000 pounds*	*Cars*	*Cars*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*	*Million pounds*
1941														
Jan. . .	26.8	[2]8.7	6.3	2.7	282	602	11.2	14.3	36.1	41.5	60.6	8.0	37.7	208
Feb. . .	18.5	8.2	7.0	--	277	382	9.7	12.9	31.6	35.2	65.3	5.8	30.9	191
Mar. . .	18.4	7.3	6.2	--	262	473	7.6	10.8	28.8	29.0	59.3	3.7	24.1	163
Apr. . .	19.2	7.6	6.0	--	318	655	5.6	8.0	23.0	22.0	47.0	1.7	19.7	127
May . .	29.2	12.3	9.0	3.0	393	538	4.5	6.0	18.0	18.0	36.2	1.7	16.9	101
June . .	27.3	13.5	8.0	4.1	394	546	4.3	4.3	14.1	14.9	30.4	3.5	15.9	87
July . .	28.3	16.9	8.2	8.1	371	558	4.9	3.6	12.0	13.8	28.0	6.6	16.6	86
Aug. . .	32.7	22.9	9.1	13.4	402	530	6.9	3.6	9.4	14.7	19.8	9.8	17.2	81
Sept. .	34.4	27.0	7.7	18.9	431	701	9.7	5.3	8.9	18.0	12.8	11.7	19.0	85
Oct. . .	48.5	36.1	12.2	23.5	523	694	11.8	8.9	12.9	20.6	9.2	12.6	20.6	97
Nov. . .	74.9	33.8	12.3	21.0	485	625	13.4	14.0	24.9	29.6	8.2	11.1	26.8	128
Dec. . .	80.7	21.5	9.4	11.6	486	727	14.2	17.6	37.9	37.7	21.1	9.4	35.0	173
1942														
Jan. . .	25.2	12.1	8.1	3.6	290	498	14.0	18.1	45.5	44.2	50.0	6.9	39.6	218
Feb. . .	16.8	7.0	5.0	--	262	463	12.6	16.1	39.6	37.5	59.6	4.9	35.7	206
Mar. . .	19.2	6.2	5.0	--	293		10.9	12.8	32.0	31.7	55.8	3.1	32.7	180
Apr.[3] . .							8.5	9.5	24.3	24.4	45.4	1.7	25.7	140
Percentage of year earlier[4]	104	85	81		112	121	152	119	106	111	97	100	130	110
	Average 1931-40	Nine-year averages 1932-40			Five-year averages 1936-40									
Jan. . .	24.8	[2]9.7	7.2	2.8	246	644	14.3	14.4	32.4	25.0	30.5	5.2	23.2	145
Feb. . .	17.8	8.9	7.7	--	243	618	12.7	12.5	29.5	22.2	36.6	3.7	22.3	140
Mar. . .	*16.8*	*8.1*	7.2	--	*279*	*764*	10.7	10.6	24.6	19.4	34.4	2.4	18.8	121
Apr. . .	15.6	9.2	8.1	--	317	761	8.5	8.3	19.1	14.4	28.9	1.4	14.5	95
May . .	19.7	12.3	10.0	--	383	676	6.1	5.8	13.5	10.7	23.4	1.2	11.4	72
June . .	22.6	14.6	10.8	2.9	418	705	5.2	3.9	9.6	10.1	21.6	2.4	11.2	64
July . .	22.4	14.5	8.8	5.1	375	661	5.5	2.6	6.7	12.1	20.1	4.8	12.8	65
Aug. . .	23.9	17.3	7.8	9.0	380	661	7.2	2.2	5.0	12.5	16.0	7.6	13.5	64
Sept. .	26.6	23.0	8.3	14.3	395	827	9.8	2.7	4.4	13.2	11.4	9.6	14.8	66
Oct. . .	33.3	27.7	10.4	16.9	400	695	11.8	5.2	6.7	14.1	8.0	9.7	16.1	72
Nov. . .	71.2	29.7	10.8	18.3	467	786	13.2	9.3	14.7	18.9	6.6	9.0	18.8	90
Dec. . .	67.1	21.7	10.8	10.7	419	830	14.0	12.9	25.7	24.6	22.9	7.9	24.6	133

[1] Car equivalent of receipts by freight, truck and express.

[2] Data for young stock are for less than a month. For this reason total young stock and fowl is greater than total poultry.

[3] Preliminary.

[4] Applies to last month for which data are available.

Table 6.- *Poultry and eggs: Prices, wholesale and farm with percentages of parity*

Year and month	Average prices received by farmers								Average wholesale prices at Chicago				
	Actual prices			Percentage of parity			Index numbers (Aug. 1909-July 1914 = 100)		Eggs, fresh firsts, per doz.	Poultry, live			
										Heavy hens per lb.	Broilers Barred Rock per lb.	Roosters White Rock	
	Eggs, per doz.	Chickens per lb.	Turkeys per lb.	Eggs	Chickens	Turkeys	All commodities	Chickens and eggs				Light per lb.	Heavy per lb.
	Cents	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Percent*	*Percent*	*Percent*			*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*	*Cents*
1941													
Jan. . .	19.7	13.7	15.5	75	94	84	104	100	18.5	16.9	18.0	19.0	19.4
Feb. . .	16.8	14.0	15.1	69	96	82	103	90	16.8	16.7	18.8	19.5	21.1
Mar. . .	16.4	14.4	15.2	72	98	82	103	90	18.0	17.4	21.1	21.2	23.1
Apr. . .	19.7	15.7	15.5	87	107	83	110	104	21.8	19.4	21.9	21.4	23.8
May . . .	20.1	16.3	15.4	89	110	82	112	107	22.6	18.7	19.6	19.3	21.5
June . .	23.2	16.3	15.4	104	109	81	118	118	25.6	19.0	18.8	18.2	20.9
July . .	25.6	16.8	15.8	100	111	82	125	127	26.4	19.4	20.0	20.2	22.0
Aug. . .	26.8	16.3	16.1	95	105	82	131	130	27.7	19.1	19.8	19.2	19.3
Sept. . .	30.3	16.3	17.5	90	104	88	139	141	29.0	20.3	20.4	18.4	18.1
Oct. . .	31.8	16.0	18.8	83	99	93	139	146	31.0	18.9	21.2	18.5	16.9
Nov. . .	35.5	15.5	20.2	82	95	98	135	157	36.0	18.4	20.2	18.1	16.5
Dec. . .	34.1	15.8	20.9	89	96	101	143	153	34.5	19.8	19.8	18.6	19.4
1942													
Jan. . .	31.3	17.0	20.5	105	102	98	149	147	33.4	22.0	18.6	18.6	22.4
Feb. . .	27.5	17.4	20.0	99	104	94	145	135	28.8	21.8	20.8	22.2	24.3
Mar. . .	25.8	18.0	19.9	99	107	93	146	130	28.2	22.3	24.5	24.9	27.2
Apr.[1] . .									28.5	21.0	25.7	26.2	29.1
Percentage of year earlier[2]	157	125	131	--	--	--	142	144	157	128	116	117	118
	Ten-year averages 1931-40[3]									Comparable data, 1940			
Jan. . .	20.8	13.3	16.8	70	90	91	95	102	21.3	14.9	16.3	16.2	16.5
Feb. . .	17 6	13.4	16.4	69	91	88	94	92	19.2	15.0	17.7	18.0	19.3
Mar. . .	15.6	13.7	16.1	70	93	87	93	85	17.4	15.1	19.1	19.7	22.0
Apr. . .	15.4	14.1	15.8	71	96	85	93	86	17.3	15.8	21.2	21.6	24.0
May . . .	15.4	14.0	15.1	72	96	81	92	86	17.4	14.9	23.1	24.4	27.0
June . . .	15.3	13.8	14.5	72	94	78	91	85	16.8	14.1	18.5	20.2	24.7
July . .	16.8	13.7	14.4	71	94	78	94	90	17.7	14.6	17.3	17.8	20.3
Aug. . .	18.4	13.6	14.5	71	92	78	95	95	18.9	14.9	17.6	17.7	18.6
Sept. . .	21.5	13.9	15.3	71	94	82	97	106	21.3	16.0	17.2	16.2	16.5
Oct. . .	24.4	13.3	15.8	71	91	85	95	114	23.3	15.1	18.0	15.8	15.6
Nov. . .	27.7	12.0	16.3	71	89	88	95	125	27.1	14.9	18.7	15.9	16.1
Dec. . .	26.3	12.7	16.4	72	87	89	95	119	25.0	15.5	17.9	17.7	18.1

[1] Averages of prices in first half of month.

[2] Applies to last month for which complete data are available.

[3] Five-year average, 1936-40 for turkeys (actual price and percentage of parity).

Table 7.- *Poultry and eggs: Cash income, price ratios, cost of feeds used in poultry ration and index numbers of related series*

Year and month	Cash farm income		Price ratio					Cost of feed used in farm poultry ration (per 100 lb.)	Index numbers				Retail prices	
	Total from farm marketings	Poultry and eggs	Wholesale prices, Chicago		Farm prices				Indicated base period = 100				Chickens (Roasters) BLS	Eggs (strictly fresh) BLS
			Feed-broiler (Barred Rock)	Feed-light roasters (White Rock)	Feed-turkey	Feed-chicken	Feed-egg		Wholesale food prices (BLS)	Retail food prices (BLS)	Prices paid by farmers including interest & taxes	Non-agricultural employees compensation		
	Million dollars	*Million dollars*	*Pounds chicken*	*Pounds chicken*	*Pounds turkey*	*Pounds chicken*	*Dozen eggs*	*Dollars*	*1935-39*	*1935-39*	*1910-14*	*1924-29*	*Cents per lb.*	*Cents per doz.*
1941														
Jan. . .	667	56	6.9	6.5	7.4	8.4	5.8	1.15	93.2	97.8	128	115.2	31.1	34.9
Feb. . .	550	45	6.4	6.2	7.5	8.1	6.8	1.14	92.9	97.9	128	117.5	31.9	30.0
Mar. . .	610	56	5.9	5.9	7.6	8.0	7.1	1.16	95.1	98.4	129	119.9	32.1	29.4
Apr. . .	665	72	6.0	6.2	8.0	7.9	6.3	1.24	98.5	100.6	129	121.9	33.2	32.5
May . . .	747	83	7.0	7.1	8.4	7.9	6.4	1.29	100.5	102.1	130	126.7	33.9	33.3
June . .	773	86	7.4	7.7	8.6	8.1	5.7	1.33	105.1	105.9	132	130.6	33.8	36.9
July . .	889	94	7.1	7.1	8.7	8.2	5.4	1.37	107.1	106.7	133	128.1	33.5	40.6
Aug. . .	1,101	88	7.4	7.7	8.6	8.5	5.2	1.39	110.2	108.0	136	130.6	32.9	42.7
Sept. . .	1,298	87	7.6	8.4	8.4	9.0	4.9	1.47	113.1	110.7	138	134.9	32.9	46.9
Oct. . .	1,442	98	6.9	7.9	7.4	8.7	4.4	1.40	112.4	111.6	141	138.0	32.4	48.7
Nov. . .	1,233	123	7.4	8.3	6.9	9.0	3.9	1.39	112.9	113.1	143	137.9	31.7	51.9
Dec. . .	1,151	117	8.1	8.7	7.0	9.3	4.3	1.47	114.4	113.1	143	142.6	32.1	49.0
1942														
Jan. . .	987	95	9.3	9.3	7.7	9.3	5.0	1.58	118.5	116.2	146	140.7	34.2	46.4
Feb. . .	810	80	8.6	7.7	8.2	9.4	6.0	1.64	119.6	116.8	147	141.8	35.2	42.2
Mar. . .			6.9	6.8	8.4	9.2	6.4	1.66	121.5	118.6	148		35.7	39.7
Apr. . .			[1]6.7	[1]6.5	[2]8.3	[2]9.2	[2]6.4							
Percentage of year earlier[3]	147	178	117	115	111	115	90	143	128	121	115	121	111	135
	Five-year averages 1936-40					Ten-year averages 1931-40								
Jan. . .	603	49	6.9	7.3	7.9	8.6	5.4	1.13	93.0	96.7	129	83.0	29.5	35.2
Feb. . .	492	43	6.5	6.4	8.2	8.5	6.4	1.14	92.3	95.9	129	83.0	29.7	31.2
Mar. . .	527	48	6.0	5.1	8.2	8.2	7.1	1.13	91.7	95.6	128	84.0	30.1	28.7
Apr. . .	515	61	6.1	4.9	8.7	8.3	7.5	1.18	91.3	95.7	128	83.9	30.5	27.6
May . . .	547	65	6.2	5.5	9.1	8.5	7.7	1.20	90.7	95.7	128	84.7	30.8	27.8
June . .	577	66	6.7	5.6	9.2	8.5	7.7	1.17	91.2	96.1	128	84.8	30.5	28.5
July . .	699	75	7.3	6.4	9.4	8.9	7.2	1.22	92.6	97.0	128	81.5	30.3	31.0
Aug. . .	733	74	7.7	7.3	9.2	9.0	6.6	1.21	93.6	97.0	128	82.5	30.2	33.5
Sept. . .	865	72	7.7	8.1	8.8	8.7	5.6	1.21	95.4	98.2	128	85.1	30.3	37.2
Oct. . .	1,001	67	6.9	8.0	7.7	8.4	4.5	1.11	94.0	97.2	128	87.7	29.2	39.9
Nov. . .	839	82	6.8	8.0	7.4	8.4	3.9	1.08	93.8	96.3	128	86.8	28.5	42.0
Dec. . .	721	71	7.5	8.0	7.6	8.8	4.2	1.10	92.9	95.7	128	88.2	28.3	39.6

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[1] Based on averages for first half of month.

[2] Estimated.

[3] Applies to last month for which complete data are available.

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